



Proclamation

WHEREAS, fire is a serious public safety concern both locally and nationally, and homes are where people are at greatest risk from fire; and,

WHEREAS, according to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), U.S. fire departments responded to 369,500 home fires in 2014; and,

WHEREAS, U.S. home fires resulted in 2,745 civilian deaths in 2014, representing the majority (84 percent) of all U.S. fire deaths; and,

WHEREAS, in one-fifth of all homes with smoke alarms, the smoke alarms are not working; and,

WHEREAS, three out of five home fire deaths result from fires in properties without smoke alarms (38 percent) or with no working smoke alarms (21 percent); and,

WHEREAS, working smoke alarms cut the risk of dying in reported home fires in half; and,

WHEREAS, many Americans don't know how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, or how often they need to be replaced; and,

WHEREAS, all smoke alarms should be replaced at least once every 10 years; the age of a smoke alarm can be determined by the date of its manufacture, which is marked on the back of the smoke alarm;

WHEREAS, the 2016 Fire Prevention Week theme, "Don't Wait – Check the Date! Replace Smoke Alarms Every 10 Years" effectively serves to educate the public about the vital importance of replacing the smoke alarms in their homes at least every 10 years;

THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim October 9-15, 2016, as **FIRE PREVENTION WEEK** and I urge all the people of Illinois to find out how old the smoke alarms in their homes are, to replace them if they're more than 10 years old, and to participate in the many public safety activities and efforts of Illinois fire and emergency services during Fire Prevention Week 2016.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this TWENTY-SIXTH day of SEPTEMBER , in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
 SIXTEEN , and of the State of Illinois,
one hundred and NINETY-EIGHTH .

Dease White

Bruce Rauner

SECRETARY OF STATE

GOVERNOR